

DES 1/8/98
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TMD-94-00-2

Eileen S. Stommes, Deputy Administrator
USDA-AMS-TM-NOP, AG Stop 0275, Room 4007-So.
P.O. Box 96456
Washington, D.C. 20090-6456
Fax: 202-690-4632

Sent MA
3-16-98

Dear Ms. Stommes,

I am writing in response to the proposed National Organic Standards to let you know that I do not want genetically engineered organisms, processing agents, or agricultural inputs to be allowed in organic farming and handling under any circumstances--even on a case by case basis. I also ask that you prohibit the use of irradiation and sewage sludge in organic farming and handling. And, I ask that the standard for the treatment of livestock and the fee structure for certification be consistent with the recommendations of the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB).

The NOSB represents a broad consensus of organic farmers, manufacturers and consumers regarding the principles of organic agriculture and foods production. To formulate regulations that do not reflect their recommendations on genetic engineering, irradiation, sewage sludge, the needs of the small farmer, and the treatment of animals will gravely weaken consumer confidence in the organic label and threaten the viability of this industry.

Thank you for including my input in your final decision.

Sincerely, 

Name:

LORNA BRADY

Date:

March 7th, 1998.

Address:

1039 26th St. S.
Santa Monica, CA. 90403.

cc: Mothers for Natural Law, P.O. Box 1177, Fairfield, Iowa 52556.
Fax: 515 472-2683

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DEC 18/98

TMD-94-00-2

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Thank you for including my input in your final decision.

Sincerely,



Name:

Tom Brady

Date:

MARCH 7th 1998

Address:

1039 26th STREET
SANTA MONICA
CA. 90403

cc: Mothers for Natural Law, P.O. Box 1177, Fairfield, Iowa 52556.
Fax: 515 472-2683

99 3/31/98
DEC 8/18/98
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Thank you for including my input in your final decision.

Sincerely,

Verna Barrie

Signature:

Date: 3/5/98

Name: VERNA BARRIE

Address: 11 HEARD RD
ARLINGTON, MA 02174

cc: Mothers for Natural Law • P.O. Box 1177 • Fairfield, Iowa 52556
Fax: 515-472-2683

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Thank you for including my input in your final decision.

Sincerely,

Jasmine Benjoya

Signature:

Jasmine Benjoya

Date:

3/4/98

Name:

Address:

Jasmine Benjoya
32 Noble
W. Newton
Ma. 02465

cc: Mothers for Natural Law • P.O. Box 1177 • Fairfield, Iowa 52556
Fax: 515-472-2683

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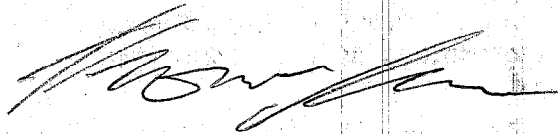
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The NOSB represents a broad consensus of organic farmers, manufacturers, retailers and consumers regarding the principles of organic agriculture and food production. To formulate regulations that do not reflect their recommendations on these issues and many others will gravely weaken consumer confidence in the organic label and threaten the viability of this industry. I ask that you rewrite this draft and resubmit it for our review.

Thank you for including my input in your final decision.

Sincerely,



Signature:

Date:

15th March '98

Name:

Thomas Barlow

Address:

D.M. 1125

M.U.M.

Fairfield, IA

cc: Mothers for Natural Law, P.O. Box 1177, Fairfield, Iowa 52556
Fax: 515-472-2683

SOS!!!SOS!!!SOS!!! Save Organic Standards!!! Urgent Action Alert!!!

The Organic Food Production Act of the 1990 Farm Bill called for the formation of the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB), whose responsibility was to formulate recommendations to the USDA regarding how our organic standards should look. The law stipulated that the NOSB's recommendations were to be the primary source of guidance to the USDA when the agency wrote regulations on organic standards. The NOSB worked for years to formulate regulations that represented a broad consensus of both organic producers and consumers. But now the USDA is ignoring the experience, expertise and critical recommendations from the NOSB, effectively dismantling the deliberative structure legislated by Congress. **The USDA did not incorporate the following NOSB recommendations into their regulations:**

- Categorically exclude genetically engineered organisms, agricultural inputs and processing agents from organic agriculture and production
- Bar the use of sewage sludge in organic farming
- Exclude all uses of irradiation in the preparation of organic foods
- Adhere strictly to humane animal husbandry practices
- Support the small farmers, certifiers, and processors as the backbone of organic

You have until April 30, 1998 to respond!!!

Fact: Genetically engineered foods are not natural. They have never been proven safe. And they have absolutely no place in organic. Splicing genes from viruses, bacteria, insects and animals into our foods using artificial laboratory techniques can introduce dangerous allergens and toxins into our foods, compromise the integrity of our global food supply and irreversibly damage the environment.

Fact: Sewage sludge contains viruses, heavy metals and thousands of other toxins that can contaminate crops and damage the health of the humans and livestock that eat them.

Fact: Food irradiation uses wastes from nuclear reactors and produces dangerous chemicals foreign to our foods that can cause cancer and other diseases.

Fact: Factory farming and other "modern" high production farming and feeding methods violate the principles of humane animal husbandry and are in direct conflict with the precepts of organic agriculture.

Fact: The lowest certification fees are set so high that small farmers, certifiers and processors, the historic pioneers of the organic movement, will not be able to participate in the National Organic Program. The act is also silent on the continued participation of private certifiers under their own seal, thus disenfranchising another founding component of the organic industry.

The Organic Food Production Act defined organic agriculture as "a holistic system for optimizing the health and productivity of interdependent communities of soil life, plants, animals and people." In its humble beginning, there were only a few organic farmers and consumers. Now that the organic market is the only growing segment of the food industry, everyone wants a piece of it—from the big food producers to the biotech industry. Growth is good, but not at the expense of watering down organic standards. What will organic mean if we don't keep dangerous, environmentally and socially destructive practices out? The answer is simple. Nothing.

So stand up and be counted!!! Write your letter today!!!

Write to the USDA today and tell them you do not want GEOs, irradiation or sewage sludge in organic under any circumstances. Tell them you also expect humane treatment and feeding of animals as recommended by the NOSB. And, you expect them to create a certification fee structure that is accessible to the small farmers. Use your own words or simply copy the letter on the other side of this page.

**Very Important!!! To insure that your opinion is counted,
please make sure to mail or fax a copy of your letter to :**

**Mothers for Natural Law • P.O. Box 1177 • Fairfield, Iowa 52556 • Fax: 515-472-2683
For more information: Call Mothers for Natural Law at 515-472-2809**

AA 4/23/98

DE 5/18/98

new

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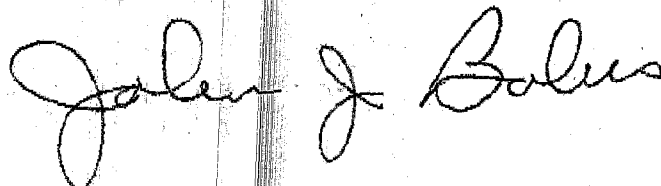
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Thank you for including my input in your final decision.

Sincerely,



Signature:

Date:

4-16-98

Name:

JOHN J. BOLUS

Address:

2010 ALAMANDA DR. #103
NAPLES, FL 34102

cc: Mothers for Natural Law • P.O. Box 1177 • Fairfield, Iowa 52556
Fax: 515-472-2683

phone
fax #s
next pg

=== COVER PAGE ===

TO: _____

FAX: 15154722683

FROM: JOHN J BOLUS

FAX: 19416497605

TEL: 19416494964

COMMENT:

AA 4/29/98
DES 18/98

new

TMD-94-00-2

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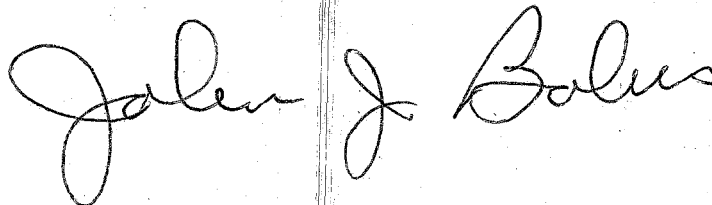
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Date:

4-16-98

Name:

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Address:

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AA 4/24/98

DE 5/18/98

now

TMD-94-00-2

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Thank you for including my input in your final decision.

Sincerely,

Mary A. Blakely

Signature:

Date: 2/24/98

Name: MARY BLAKELY

Address: 509 NW 60th St
KC Mo 64151

cc: Mothers for Natural Law • P.O. Box 1177 • Fairfield, Iowa 52556
Fax: 515-472-2683